Astelia

Astelia is a genus of flowering plants in the recently named family Asteliaceae. They are rhizomatous tufted perennials native to various islands in the Pacific, Indian, and South Atlantic Oceans, as well as to Australia and to the southernmost tip of South America. A significant number of the known species are endemic to New Zealand.[1][2] The species generally grow in forests, swamps and amongst low alpine vegetation; occasionally they are epiphytic.[3]

Species

The genus is divided into a number of subgenera and these are further divided into sections. These contain the following species:[4][5]

- subgenus *Astelia*
  - section *Astelia*
    - *Astelia alpina* R.Br. - Pineapple Grass, Silver Astelia, native to eastern Australia[6]
      - *Astelia alpina* var. *alpina*
      - *Astelia alpina* var. *novae-hollandiae* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia papuana* Skottsb.- native to New Guinea[7]
    - *Astelia linearis* Hook.f.- native to North and South Islands of New Zealand[8]
      - *Astelia linearis* var. *linearis*
      - *Astelia linearis* var. *novae-zelandiae* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia subulata* (Hook.f.) Cheesem. - native to South Island + Antipodean Islands of New Zealand[8]
  - section *Palaeastelia* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia hemichrysa* (Lam.) Kunth - native to Réunion + Mauritius
- subgenus *Asteliopsis* Skottsb.
  - section *Desmoneuron* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia solandri* A.Cunn. - native to North and South Islands of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia trinervia* Kirk - native to North Island and north-west South Island of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia nadeaudii* Drake - native to Tahiti + Raiatea in French Polynesia

Astelia	
Astelia hemichrysa in Réunion	
Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
Clade:	Tracheophytes
Clade:	Angiosperms
Clade:	Monocots
Order:	Asparagales
Family:	Asteliaceae
Genus:	*Astelia* Banks & Sol. ex R.Br.
Synonyms[1]	
▪ *Funckia* Willd. ▪ *Hamelinia* A.Rich.	

Astelia spp. growing on *Agathis australis* in Trounson Kauri Park, North Island, New Zealand

- *Astelia raiateensis* J.W.Moore - see *Astelia nadeaudii*
- section *Isoneuron* Skottsb.
  - *Astelia banksii* A.Cunn. - Native to North Island of New Zealand[8]
  - *Astelia neocaledonica* Schltr. - endemic to New Caledonia.[9]
- subgenus *Collospermum* Skottsb.

Astelia alpina

  - *Astelia hastata* Colenso - New Zealand - formerly *Collospermum hastatum* (Colenso) Skottsb.
  - *Astelia microsperma* Colenso - North Island of New Zealand - formerly *Collospermum microspermum* (Colenso) Skottsb.
  - *Astelia montana* Seem. - Fiji and Vanuatu - formerly *Collospermum montanum* (Seem.) Skottsb.
  - *Astelia samoense* (Skottsb.) Birch[4] - Samoa - formerly *Collospermum samoense* Skottsb.
  - *Astelia spicata* Colenso, formerly *Collospermum spicatum* (Colenso) Skottsb., would fall into this subgenus but was rejected by Birch as a species.[4]
- subgenus *Tricella* Skottsb.
  - section *Tricella* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia australiana* (J.H.Willis) L.B.Moore - Tall Astelia, native to the State of Victoria in Australia[6]
    - *Astelia chathamica* (Skottsb.) L.B.Moore - Silver Spear, native to Chatham Islands of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia fragrans* Col. - Bush Flax, Bush Lily, Kakaha, native to North and South Islands of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia graminea* L.B.Moore- native to northern South Island of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia grandis* Hook.f. ex Kirk- native to North and South Islands of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia nervosa* Banks & Sol. ex Hook.f.- Mountain Astelia, native to North and South Islands of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia nivicola* Ckn. ex Cheesem. - native to South Island of New Zealand[8]
      - *Astelia nivicola* var. *nivicola*
      - *Astelia nivicola* var. *moriceae* L.B.Moore
    - *Astelia petriei* Ckn. - native to South Island of New Zealand[8]
    - *Astelia psychrocharis* F.Muell. - Kosciusko Pineapple Grass, native to Mt. Kosciusko in Australia[6]
    - *Astelia skottsbergii* L.B.Moore - native to north-west South Island of New Zealand[8]
  - section *Periastelia* Skottsb.
    - *Astelia argyrocoma* A.Heller ex Skottsb. - native to Kauai Island in Hawaii
    - *Astelia menziesiana* Sm. in A.Rees - native to Hawaii
    - *Astelia rapensis* Skottsb. - native to Rapa-Iti Island in French Polynesia
    - *Astelia tovii* F.Br. - Marquesas in French Polynesia
    - *Astelia waialealae* Wawra - native to Kauai Island in Hawaii
  - section *Micrastelia* Skottsb.

- *Astelia pumila* (J.R.Forst.) Gaudich. - native to western Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego and Falkland Islands

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